

Sierra Cascades Dialog

The Sierra Cascades Dialog brings people with diverse viewpoints together to discuss and think about issues of importance in managing national forests and grasslands across the Sierra Nevada and Cascades mountain ranges. Dialogs provide an opportunity for learning, shared meaning, aligned actions, mutual respect and understanding different perspectives. The Dialog is a rare opportunity to discuss issues as a region. The outcomes of the dialog influence the management strategies of the Pacific Southwest Region of the Forest Service.

THE MISSION
of the Forest Service is to sustain the health, diversity and productivity of the Nation's forests and grasslands to meet the needs of present and future generations.

Dialog Goals

The goals are to:

- ✳ Bring together public and private land managers to grapple with an "all lands" approach to planning and conservation, beginning with fire protection issues
- ✳ Lay the foundation for Forest Plan revisions
- ✳ Develop stakeholder collaborative capacity to address challenging complex issues on a broad scale
- ✳ Create shared responsibility and understanding
- ✳ Give people voice to express concerns and provide an avenue for input
- ✳ Build relationships and trust among all stakeholders

Participants

All meetings are open to the public. Everyone is welcome to participate. The Dialog strives for age, cultural, geographic and socio-economic diversity among participants.

Who Attends

- ✳ County Governments
- ✳ Environmental Organizations
- ✳ Fire Safe Councils
- ✳ Industry
- ✳ Land Managers, including Forest Service staff and leadership
- ✳ Private Landowners
- ✳ Recreation Groups
- ✳ Rural and Urban Communities
- ✳ Scientists
- ✳ State Government
- ✳ Tribes
- ✳ Water Agency
- ✳ Youth





History & Impact

1

(2010)

Leadership Intent for Ecological Restoration

Input used to refine the Leadership Intent for Ecological Restoration.

2

(2011)

Values, Attitudes & Beliefs

Informed the Region's bioregional assessment for forest planning and led to the science synthesis.

3

(2011)

Improving Conditions in Rural Communities

Enhanced work underway in partnership with County elected officials and key groups.

4

(2011)

Preparing for Forest Planning: Science Synthesis

Identified questions that stakeholders would like the science synthesis to answer.

5

(2012)

Collaborative Planning in Forest Plan Revision

Led to each early adopter creating a Collaboration & Communication Plan with stakeholders.

6

(2012)

Adaptive Management in Forest Planning

Increased understanding about planning as a cyclical process.

7

(2012)

Recreation: Social and Economic Benefits and Impacts

Informed forest planning on demographic trends and the economic implications for forests.

8

(2013)

Science Synthesis Report

Providing information for the assessment phase of forest plan revisions in the Sierra Nevada and Cascades.

9

(2013)

Bioregional Assessment for Forest Planning

Input on conditions and trends for assessment topic papers.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee guides the dialog process, helping to frame discussion topics and the meeting format.

Deb Whitall, [USDA Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region \(Region 5\) Social Scientist—LEAD ORGANIZER](#)

Jim Branham, [Sierra Nevada Conservancy](#)

Steve Brink, [California Forestry Association](#)

George Gentry, [Board of Forestry and Fire Protection](#)

Robert Goodwin, [Region 5 Tribal Programs](#)

Amy Granat, [California Off Road Vehicle Association](#)

Stacy Heaton, [Regional Council of Rural Counties](#)

Trinidad H. Juarez, [Region 5](#)

Susie Kocher, [UC Cooperative Extension](#)

Caelan McGee, [U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution](#)

Ron Pugh, [Region 5 Planning](#)

Frank Stewart, [California Fire Safe Council](#)

Danna Stroud, [Sierra Nevada Conservancy](#)

Edmund Sullivan, [Placer County Planning Department](#)

Craig Thomas, [Sierra Forest Legacy](#)

Stan Van Velsor, [Wilderness Society](#)

Bill Wickman, [Sustainable Forest Action Coalition](#)

Steve Wilensky, [Calaveras County Supervisor](#)

Donald Yasuda, [Region 5](#)

Gina Bartlett, [Facilitator, Center for Collaborative Policy](#)

More Information:

DEB WHITALL, Forest Service

707.562.8823 | email: dwhitall@fs.fed.us

www.fs.usda.gov/goto/r5/SierraCascadesDialog